Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2011 with funding from
LYRASIS Members and Sloan Foundation

http://www.archive.org/details/minutesofsevente00selm

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

-OF THE-

Selma Baptist Association,

-HELD WITH-

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH,

SELMA, ALABAMA,

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 15, 16 and 17, 1899.

OFFICERS:

H. S. D. Mallory, ... Moderator.
M. H. Traylor, ... Treasurer.
Louis Johnson, ... Clerk.
T. P. McCrary, ... Assistant Clerk.

MINUTES

OF THE SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

SELMA, ALA., August 15, 1899.

Association met at 10:30 a. m, with 2nd Baptist Church, Tuesday Aug. 15th, 1899.

Devotional exercises led by Bro. J. B. Powell from 12th chapter Romans, 1st to 12th verse.

Bro. H. S. D. Mallory called the Association to order and appointed the following Committee on Credentials: Bro Miles Hardy, Bro. M. H. Taylor, Bro. D. B. Edwards.

Under suspension of rules, Bro. A. J. Dickinson moved that the Association consider admitting Immanuel Church at Browns, Ala., of Cahaba Association to this Association On vote being taken the church was admitted and filed letter.

Report on credentials read and adopted.

Ash Creek—G. K. Bradly.

Benton—None.

Center Ridge—S. J. Yates, R. W. Watson

Selma, 2nd Church—J. A. Mauldin, R. Summerlin, D. S. Stevenson, E. C. Edwards, M. C. Huff, T. J. Williams.

Selma 1st—H. S. D. Mallory, H. A. Haralson, W P. Welch, T. P. McCrary, Law Lamar, Ernest Lamar, G. B Burns, T. M. Johnson, R. P. Bazemore, Paul Carson, I. R. Eskew, Edward Graham, S. C. Stutts, J. Will Moore.

Town Creek—J. B. Powell, Miles Hardy, T. E. Whatley, Byrd Whatley, R. D. Stewart, E. L. Stewart.

Sister Springs—J. S. Hooper, J. P. Melton, W. D. S. Morgan, J. Day.

Pleasant Hill—J. P. Maxwell, W. C. Day, J. R. Crumpton, W. C. Bailey, Howard Crumpton.

Providence—Louis Johnson, W. E. Purifoy.

Mt. Gilead—N. H. Traylor, Asa May, Geo. Cowling.

Immanuel—W. H. Kendrick, W. T. Weisinger.

Shiloh—H. H. Miley, W. M. Stewart, J. M. Lide, Jr., D. B. Edwards, J. D. Johnson.

Macedonia—O. P. Woodruff, C. C. Bruner.

Orrville—W. T. Cowan, R. B. Hare, B. F. Ellis.

Bethany—A. Edwards, Ulmer Dunklin, J. M. Fortune.

Ruhama—None.

Hopewell—None.

New Bethel—None.

On Permanent Organization Bro. J. B. Powell moved that Bro. A. J. Dickinson cast the vote for re-election of present officers, which being done the following officers were declared elected.

Bro H. S. D. Mallory, Moderator.

Bro. M. H. Traylor, Treasurer.

Bro. Louis Johnson, Clerk.

Bro. T. P. McCrary, Assistant Clerk.

On report of Executive Committee, the programme as published and distributed throughout house was adopted.

RECEPTION OF VISITORS.

Bro. Savell introduced Bro. A. G. Mosely, of New Orleans, La.

Bro. J. W. Stewart of Orphan's Home.

Bro. Dickinson introduced Bro. J. S. Anderson of the Institute Board and Bro. Howard of the Alabama Baptist, Bro. W. B. Crumpton, Secretary of State Board of Missons.

Bro. E. E. George of Cahaba Association was recognized.

Bro. A. J. Dickinson was granted a few minutes for remarks, in which he exhorted the brethren to be social and recommended the reading of the church letter, so that we may know each other better and know what each other were doing.

Bro. A. J. Dickinson moved that a change in the program be made so that Discussion of Institute Board could be this evening at 3:30 instead of Woman's Work, and that Woman's Work take the place of Institute Work at 4 p. m., on the 16th. So ordered.

Adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2:30 p. m Devotional exercises led by Rev. J M. Stewart, after which the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

The reading of the church letters being called they were read by Brethren J. P. Maxwell and M. H. Traylor.

On special motion the report on Orphan's Home was taken up. Report was read by Bro. Miles Hardy. Dis-

cussion opened by Bro. J. W. Stewart of the Orphan's Home, who made an earnest appeal for the home, not only from a financial standpoint but for the sysmpathy and prayers. Bro. Reeves Crumpton followed in the discussion, after which a collection was taken for the Home, amounting to $11.32. Report adopted. (Exhibit A.)

Report on Denominational Literature, paper by Bro. Law Lamar. Discussion opened by Bro. J. I. Kendrick, followed by Bros. Stewart, Dickinson, Crumpton and A. G. Mosely. Report adopted. (Exhibit B.)

Bro. E. P. George of Cahaba Association and Bro. W. A. Parker, Sr., of South Bethel Association, were introduced to the Association as visitors. After prayer by Bro. G. S. Anderson, adjourned until 7:45 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

Services commenced at 7:45, at which Bro. A. J. Dickinson preached the inductory sermon from the 8th chapter of Corrinthians, part of 23 and 24 verses. "Wheth er any do inquire of Titus he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you or our brethren be inquired of they are the messengers of the churches and the glory of Christ. Wherefore show ye them and before the churches the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.

After which the Association was called to order by Bro. J. F. Savell, Moderator pro tem. When the report of Institute Work was taken up, Bro. A. J. Dickinson read the report. Bro. G. S. Anderson of Auburn, of the Institute Board was called to the floor and ably addressed the Association in this cause. Report Adopted. (Exhibit C)

Bro. A. J. Dickinson moved as amendment to report on Institute Board, that the Apportionment Committee be requested to apportion one hundred dollars for this work next year. So ordered.

Bro. A. J. Dickinson vouched fifty dollars from the 1st Baptist Church of Selma.

Bro. A. J. Dickinson moved that a collection be taken for the Institute Board, and the amount of $6.25 was raised.

Adjourned with prayer by Bro. W. B. Crumpton.

Approved Aug. 16, 1899.

August 16th, 1899.

Devotional exercises conducted by Bro. J. R. Crumpton.

Association called to order by the Moderator. Com-

mittees to report at this session appointed as follows:

On Finance—Miles Hardy, D. B. Edwards, J. A. Mauldin, W. D. S. Morgan and Ed Graham.

On Nominations—J. I. Kendrick, S. J. Yates, R. Sumerlin and M. C. Day.

On Time and Place—M. T. Weisinger, J. P. Maxwell, M. H. Traylor, O. P. Woodruff, W. E. Purifoy and R. B. Hare.

On State of Religion in the Churches—J. B. Powell, Alfred Edwards, William Norris, Law Lamar and W. E. Day.

On Apportionment—B. F. Ellis, W. P. Welch, G. K Bradley, Thos. J. Williams, R. D. Stewart, J. P. Melton, J. R. Crumpton, M. H. Traylor, W. H. Kendrick, W. M. Stewart, W. T. Cowlin.

Bro. C. C. Russell of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Dr. J. W. Shoaff of the 1st Methodist Church, Bro. Van Campin of the R. R. Y. M. C. A., G. A. Hornaday of the Institute Board and Professor F. M Roof, President of Howard College, were recognized and invited to seats with us.

Reports on missions:

1st, Foreign Missions, report read by J. E. Barnes. (Exhibit D.)

2nd, Home Missions, report by H. A. Haralson. (Exhibit E.)

3rd, State Missions, report read by Bro. J. I. Kendrick. (Exhibit F.)

Discussion opened by Bro. W. B Crumpton, followed by Bro. A. J. Dickinson. Report adopted.

Bro. Savell moved to amend programme to read that the subject of Education be taken up at 2:30 instead of the subject of Temperance, which will be taken up at 10:15 a. m. on the 17th.

After prayer by Bro. R. G. Patrick, adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

At 2:30 p. m., after singing, the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Committee on Time and Place of next meeting, reported the 1st Tuesday in September, 1900 as the time, and the place Orrville, Ala. Report adopted.

The report on Temperance submitted by Bro. Alfred Edwards, was then read by the Clerk; and discussion of same was opened by Bro. J. F. Savell, followed by Bros. E. P. George and W. A. Parker, Sr. Report adopted. (Exhibit G)

Report on Sunday School read by Bro. W. P. Welch. Discussion opened by Bro. J. R. Crumpton; after which a general discussion was had by members of different Sunday Schools. Report adopted. (Exhibit H.)

Report on Woman's Work read by Bro. J. F. Savell. After the discussion the report was adopted, carrying with it a resolution to print the proceedings of the woman's meeting in the minutes of the Association. (Exhibit I.)

Report of Treasurer M. H. Traylor was read and adopted (Exhibit J.)

Committee on Nominations reported as follows:

To preach Missionary Sermon, J. E. Barnes.

To preach Introductory Sermon, J. B. Powell.

Delegates to Southern Baptist Convention—J. F. Watson; alternate, J F. Savell.

Delegates to Baptist State Convention—H. A. Haralson. Miles Hardy, Lewis Johnson, J. B. Powell. J. R. Crumpton, W H Kendrick, B. F. Ellis, Paul Carson, J. M. Fortune, J. A. Mauldin.

Executive Committee—H. S. D. Mallory, J. B. Powell, J. A. Mauldin, J. P. Maxwell and T. P. McCrary.

There being no business to come before the Association tonight, the body adjourned until 10:15 a. m., Aug. 17th. After prayer by Prof. F. M. Roof of Howard College,

8 p. m. Services opened by singing; after which Bro. A. G. Mosely preached the Missionary Sermon from Acts 13–29: "Separate me, Paul and Barnabas unto the work whereunto I have called them."

Approved Aug. 17, 1899

Aug. 17th, 1899.

10:15 a. m. Devotional services led by Bro. J. A. Mauldin, after which the Association was called to order by the Moderator. Minutes of the preceeding day read and approved. Committee on State of Religion in the churches made report which was adopted. (Exhibit K.)

Committee on Finance handed in their report, which on motion of Bro. A. J. Dickinson was refered to the Executive Committee for completion and then ordered entered in the minutes. (Exhibit L)

Report of Apportionment Committee was read and adopted. (Exhibit M.)

Report on Education read as follows:

1st. Ministerial Education by Bro. J. B. Powell. (Exhibit N)

2nd. General Education by Bro. A. J. Dickinson. (Exhibit O.)

Discussion was opened by President F. M. Roof of Howard College, followed by Bro. J. F. Savell, Bro. A. J. Dickinson and Bro. Howard of the Alabama Baptist. Report adopted. (Exhibit N and O.)

Bro. W. N. Hucabee of Pine Barren Association, was recognized as a visitor of the Association.

Bro. A. J. Dickinson moved and was carried that the Executive Committee arrange the program for next session.

Bro. A. J. Dickinson moved that the Executive Committee prepare a blank letter to be used by the churches in sending up reports to the Association, and that said committee be also authorized to fiill vacancies to the Southern Baptist Convention and State Baptist Convention. Carried.

Standing committees to report at session of 1900:

On State Missions—B. F. Ellis, chairman, Thos. J. Williams, Edward Graham, W. M. Stewart, H. H Miley.

On Foreign Missions—J. B. Powell, chairman, J. P. Maxwell, W. C. Day, S. C. Stutts, J. D. Johnson.

On Home Missions—J. F Savell, chairman, J. R. Crumpton, J. P. Melton, Acey May.

On Sunday School—R. D. Stewart, chairman, W. P. Welch. C. E. Bruner, Miles Hardy, J. M. Lide, Jr.

On Temperance—J. I. Kendrick, chairman, D. B. Edwards, R Summerlin, W. E. Purifoy. W. T. Cowling.

On General Education—J. E. Barnes, chairman, T. P. McCrary, E. M. Byrne, W. D. S. Morgan.

On Ministerial Education—A. J. Dickinson, chairman, Wm. Norris, J. A. Mauldin, G K. Bradley.

On Literature—J. F. Watson, chairman, S. J. Yates. H. A. Haralson, Geo. B. Burns.

On Womans Work—Paul Carson, chairman, Alfred Edwards, M. H. Traylor, Edward Day.

On Orphans Home—W. T. Weisinger, chairman, O. P. Woodruff, R. B. Hare, W. H. Kendrick.

Bro. Powell introduced a resolution to empower the Executive Committee to ascertain the cost of a trip to the Southern Baptist Convention. Said resolution refered to Executive Committee, with power to act. (Exhibit P.)

Bro. Savell moved and it was ordered that the clerk ascertain the cost of printing minutes and if sufficient funds were not in hand, to call on the churches for their pro rata share.

Bro. Dickinson moved that the Treasurer be instructed to turn over all moneys coming into his hands to the proper channels without further orders. Carried.

Bro. Powell introduced a resolution empowering the Executive Committee to investigate the condition of the

pastorless churches of this Association, and request the pastors to do as much missionary work among them as possible, also to confer with the State Board of Missions as to supplying the destitute regularly. So ordered.

Bro. D. B. Edwards introduced a resolution of thanks as follows:

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Association are tendered to the Second Baptist Church and members of the First Church for their friendly hospitality during our stay, also to Bro. J. F. Savell for his untiring efforts in behalf of our comfort.

On motion the Association adjourned sini die, after singing of song and prayer by Bro. Hucabee.

EXHIBIT A. ORPHAN'S HOME.

Among the interests fostered by the Baptists of Alabama, the cause of little children left without father or mother, or both, appeals directly to the Christian heart more forcibly than all others.

The appeal has culminated in a generous response. A little more than six years ago a number of brethren moved by the spirit of Christ rented a small house in Evergreen, where the Orphanage began its existence. This Christly spirit has widened and deepened under the judicious leadership of that lovable man of God, Bro. Jno. W. Stewart, until we have a valuable property, entirely paid for, into which have been gathered 50 boys and 69 girls, 119 all told. There has been placed in Christian homes 28 boys and 27 girls, total 55; leaving in the Home 22 boys and 42 girls, or a total of 64 children.

These are under the care of our secretary and three sweet spirited Godly women, making the home life all that could be desired. Indeed, the entire training is that of a well regulated family, every child being required to perform such al otted duties as are suited to his or her ability and capacity, to go to school, observe family worship, attend Sunday School and church. Assuring us that the children are being brought up under the "nurture and admonition of God."

Our Secretary tells us it requires $10 per day to support the now large family, and they have no income save the offerings of God's people

Brethren, bear in mind that the Home is dependent on the churches, from them it must draw life and sustenance. Neglecting this great interest we ignore a "priceless heri-

tage." "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Your committee earnestly recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That each church collect and forward to the Secretary at Evergreen, the amount apportioned to the Orphanage by Dec. 1st, 1899. And that each Sunday School in addition to this take regular collections for the current expenses of the institution.

Respectfully submitted,

MILES HARDY,
Chairman Committee.

EXHIBIT B. DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

"Every mind was made for growth, for knowledge; and its nature is sinned against when it is doomed to ignorance."

Good literature, like good company, makes good men and women, and is the foundation for noble characters and useful and happy lives.

We cannot commence too early to select the books and papers for our children. Of course, this responsibility is with parents, but they are greatly helped or hindered by the secular school teacher.

We do most earnestly request that the men and women of this Association guard against immoral and sensational books and papers entering their homes, but on the contrary we encourage the reading and study of such literature as will be for our education and lasting profit and comfort. Above all we should daily search God's words.

As to our denominational literature, we find that this Association is loyal to our Sunday School board at Nashville. We are glad to notice the improvement in the Alabama Baptist, and regret so few subscribers in our midst, and suggest that our pastors and the owners of this paper shall be more diligent in personal efforts to send this paper into every home.

We call special attention to our Missionary Journals and believe our interests in the extension of Christ's Kingdom will be greatly manifested as we read these papers.

In order to have churches undivided, well informed, liberal and useful they must be well supplied with Baptist literature. Let us see that this is done speedily.

LAW LAMAR,
Chairman.

EXHIBIT C. INSTITUTE WORK.

Your committee on the work of the Institute Board would report:

1. That the Board has now been operating two years and by its fruits has won a place in the hearts of many of our brethren of the churches. We believe that an adequate acquaintance with its methods and ends will win not only the approval of every sincere follower of Christ but his co-operation and contribution. "By their fruits ye shall know them," from this point of view we ask our brethren to give attention to this important movement.

2. The function of the work of this Board is to reach and help the ministry on the field. The Board of Ministerial Education is to help the brethren who are preparing for the ministry, whereas, our work is with the pastors already in the field. There is no reason why our efforts to improve our ministry should cease when the brethren called of God undertake the work to which God has called them, but on the contrary all through life they have need to grow and develop to higher and wider usefulness. This work our Board has undertaken by giving opportunities for increasing ones knowledge of the truth of God, his training in efficient methods of proclaiming it, and skill in operating the churches over which God has placed them.

3. A glance over the thousands of men of our denomination in charge of our churches shows how great is the need of better equipping them for this sacred work, while their gifts give every promise of rich return to the churches for every effort spent thereunto. A ministry cultured unto the work of Christ in keeping with our times is one of the great present day needs of the Baptists. No other line of work gives promise of richer return.

4. In meeting this need your Board has held eleven institutes during the last eight months attended by one hundred and fifty-eight preachers, besides many other brethren in the churches. Last year the Board held ten institutes attended by a hundred and thirty preachers. There are four institutes already provided for during the remaining months of the conventional year with others in prospect. The Board is a great agency in preparing and providing for a more highly developed and genuine and organized fellowship among our pastors who are to be leaders of the churches in all missionary, educational and benevolent enterprises. Surely none acquainted with our present condition will fail to see what an unspeakable blessing this would be to the

Alabama Baptists. The Board also edits and operates one page of the Alabama Baptist in the interest of its work. Besides these lines of work our Superintendent of Institutes Bro. G. S. Anderson, of Auburn, Ala., conducts regularly a course of correspondence study with any and all pastors and preachers who may desire to use this agency for their improvement.

5. We bespeak for this work the cordial sympathy and earnest co-operation of the churches of the Selma Association and ask for a contribution for its maintenance and enlargement.

A. J. Dickinson,
Chairman.

EXHIBIT D. FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your committee to report on Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following:

The promise, "and lo! I am with you all the days," was made by Jesus, the great head of the church nearly 19 centuries ago to the little band of His followers as they had gathered about Him on that solitaire mountain. This promise has been literally fulfilled in every instance where His followers have been obedient to Him. It was so in the early centuries. It has been so through all the centuries. And today we can claim His presence, guidance and help if we are willing to follow His leadings, though it may lead us unto the uttermost parts of the world, and into rivers of hardships, even unto death. No one who has ever gone out in obedience to his Lord's command to give the gospel to the entire world, to every creature, has returned to say that the gospel of Christ was not adapted to the people of that nation, wherever that nation may have been, and that His divine presence was not with him.

In every instance they have returned to relate to their fellow workers the victories of the cross of Christ. The work has been, is, and will be a glorious success if we comply with the marching orders of our great Leader and Saviour, "Go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every nation."

As the great host of Southern Baptists met in Louisville, Ky., last May, they felt that God had indeed been with them during the year. Dr. R. J. Willingham, Corresponding Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board brought the glad news that the board was out of debt. This was due, we are sorry to say, not to the increased contribution of

our churches, but to the closest management and the cutting down of expenditures. During the year the entire amount given to this work being $109,000. When the encouraging news was read of the work that had been done in the six fields nor occupied by our convention, when the fields were shown to be white unto harvest, and reinforcements were being called for on each of these fields, the spirit of the Master filled the hearts of the brethren, and they decided that it was now time for a great forward movement in our Mission Work, so they called for enlargement, which means that we are expected to increase our contributions during the present year twenty-five per cent.

Last year Alabama gave between five and six thousand dollars; this year we are asked to gve $8,000. There are many things to encourage us in this work, the large number of baptisms on the field last year, 845; the native Christians in many instances are supporting their own pastor in full or in part, the activity of the native Christians in giving their people the gospel, without money and without price.

We note with much joy the organization in our South China Mission a publication society, with Rev. R. E. Chambers as manager. The printed page will accomplish much for the cause in China. Another thing to encourage us is the excellent business management of our board. Last year, notwithstanding the comparatively small amount given, 85 cents of each dollar sent to Richmond, went direct to our missionaries. Let us take encourage and press forward.

The Foreign Mission Journal of August gives the following tabulated statement in regard to this work:

China—Work began in 1845, at present we have 40 missionaries, 55 native assistants, 22 churches, baptism in 1899, 427, membership 1,802.

Work in Africa began in 1850, missionaries 6, native assistants 10, churches 6, baptism in 1899, 37, membership 341.

Work in Italy began in 1870, missionaries 1, native assistants 20, churches 22, baptism in 1899, 38, membership 518.

Work in Mexico began in 1880, missionaries 10, native assistants 19, churches 26, baptism in 1899, 45, membership 1,091.

Work in Brazil began in 1882, missionaries 18, native assistants 17, churches 23, baptism in 1899, 285, membership 1,524.

Work in Japan began in 1889, missionaries 7, native

assistants 7, churches 1, baptism 13, membership 71.

Total, missionaries 82, native assistants 128, churches 100, baptisms in 1899, 845, membership 5,347.

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. Barnes,
Committee.

EXHIBIT E. HOME MISSIONS.

Your committee believes that the scope of such a report as is intended by this Association relates primarily to the work done during the past year by the churches of said body, and the purposes, objects and intentions of said churches in the direction of Home Missions for the coming year. What have the churches done since the Association last met, and what do they propose to do in the year to come? What the churches have done should be known in order to stimulate and inspire to higher and greater efforts for the future. To know well the business in hand is always an essential stimulus for the success of any undertaking.

No regular, uniformed system of reports for the churches to make to the Association has yet been devised or adopted, but the letters are written, in many instances, in a careless or indifferent manner, leaving out essential statistics and information for the use of your body. This should be corrected, and to that end, therefore, your committee suggests and advises the adoption of a resolution, urging the churches to use a letter of uniform character, setting forth in condense form the statistics of each church within the bounds of the Association, including the financial status and benevolence of such churches, with the request that they shall use these letters in making reports to your body; and that they be forwarded to the clerk of the Association, at least one week before the annual meeting of same. And these letters, too, should give some expression of the purpose and intention of the churches towards missionary work for the incoming year.

Your committee then reports that the amount given by the churches of the Association to the Home Board of the Southern Baptist Convention for the past year, as gathered from the letters to the Association, aggregate the sum of $160.75, and in the absence of information of what the churches will do for the next year it cannot report.

But we conceive that it is not enough on such an occasion as this for a report of this character to be confined to its primary objects. Something else should be done. To

give inspiration, to educate, to widen the hopes and enlarge the desires of every servant wearing the livery of our Master, and to stimulate the best resolves of every soul, in carrying out the orders received from headquarters, to spread the gospel everywhere on this earth, comes within the purview of our duty. Hence, we deem it not only important to lay before you what you have done in your own special locality, but what our yoke-fellows have accomplished during the year. That we may then intelligently understand our system, look over the field and assist in educating and inspiring our hearts for higher and better work. We beg to present the following information on Home Missions and the Home Mission Board of our Convention, for which we bespeak your patient and earnest attention. Much of it is drawn from the able and elaborate report made by said Board to the Convention assembled at Louisville, Ky., in May last.

We think it then pertinent at this time to enquire what is comprised by the Home Mission Board of our denomination? What it is and what are its duties? Who compose it? What has it accomplished and where does it labor? Simple questions these to the informed, but necessary to be asked and emphasized, to be repeated and drilled into the hearts and minds of the young and of many an indifferent and unthinking Christian in our midst before they become a part and parcel of their very life.

We answer then that it is one of the Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention, a purely missionary body, charged with the duty of administering the mission work of said Convention within its bounds; to collect and disburse to the best advantage, the gifts of the various churches, associations and other auxiliary bodies of the Convention; and to enthuse, stimulate and educate the Baptist people of our land in the great privilege of hastening the coming of the kingdom of our Lord. It builds houses of worship and assists in repairing same. It distributes bibles and tracts, and appoints missionaries to preach the gospel and to organize or assist in organizing churches, Sunday Schools, confirming and edifying the saints and baptizing the converted and believing everywhere in its bounds.

The Board consists of a President, fifteen Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and auditor, supplemented with fifteen local managers, all among the wisest and best of our denomination. It is located in Atlanta, Ga., and does its work promptly, efficiently, economiacally and faithfully. And

as there is strength and power in union, it solidifies and concentrates the efforts of all to the one great object in view.

How well this has been done, let a summary of the last year's work show. These were:

Missionaries employed	653
Weeks of labor done	17,424
Churches and stations helped	2,580
Sermons and addresses made	64,718
Prayer meetings held	12,620
Religious visits made	108,336
Baptisms administered	6,552
Received by letter	12,983
Churches constituted	194
Houses of worship built	92
Houses of worship improved	252
Amount expended on houses of worship	$71,027
Sunday Schools organized	512
Pupils and teachers employed	14,768
Bibles and testaments distributed	17,104
Pages of tracts	1,260,572

It raised and expended last year $65,818.81, against $54,251.04 year before.

It collected and expended on houses of worship $50,050.33 against $56,385.46 year before.

It received in cash $89,561.40; making a total of $205,430.54

Commencing in 1845, with a few devoted and consecrated men, it has increased the amount it handled yearly from the paltry sum of about $4,000—scarcely enough to discharge, at first the expenses of the office—to the magnificent sum of over $205,000 per year, as shown, and received and paid out a grand total of over $1,500,000 in carrying out its work. Fifty years ago when the Board was organized, it was like a small stream of the mountain, "furnishing at first scarcely sufficient water to float the toy ship of a school boy, but it has flowed on and on, gathering strength and power and beauty in its resistless sweep, until now, like a great river, it has grown broad and deep, and, as it approaches its ocean home, it spreads its bosom exultingly out, able to float the navies of the world." Then the Baptists of the south did not exceed 450,000, about equally divided between the whites and blacks; now they number over 3,000,000; then they were regarded as ignorant and bigoted; now they stand among the best, intellectually, socially and financially. Broad in culture, refine-

ment and religious toleration, the denomination now numbers amongst its membership men of scholarship, ability and eloquence; then it had no schools and colleges of note or renown; now it has institutions of learning of as high rank as any, both male and female, from Maryland to Texas. And in all of this progress and prosperity the Home Board has been no insignificant factor. Besides this it has aided too indirectly in the advance in foreign fields, where the Baptist have now 2,000 churches, 2,500 preachers, 12,000 baptisms last year and have expended the large sum of $500,000.

And in all this grand work we should not fail to recognize the splendid assistance received from the co-operative bodies of the Board—especially that of the Woman's Missionary Union. This body contributed last year the magnificent sum of $36,696.73 in cash, and in boxes for missionaries. A wonderful work, and such as we may always expect from the Godly, pious and devoted women of our great denomination.

All along the lines gains are noted, as instance the following:

Missionaries employed 653 as against 467 last year.

Baptisms 6,552 as against 4,739 last year.

Total additions to churches 12,983 as against 9,509 last year.

Sunday Schools organized 512 as against 297 last year.

Pupils and teachers 14,708 as against 7,710 last year.

Brethren: God is blessing our efforts, and stretching out our bounds. Let all lend a helping hand. "The Master is come and is calling for thee."

The line of the Boards territory stretches along the northern boundary of Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, the Indian Territory and a part of Texas; and sweeping away to the western frontier of the last named state it runs southward down the Rio Grande river for a thousand miles along that stream to the sea, and including all of those states and regions, together with all of the other Southern States and the western portion of Cuba. Truly a grand empire in which to work for Christ. It adds to its work, not only that which it is bestowing in this territory upon the Anglo-Saxon race, but upon the fast increasing and ignorant foreign population constantly pouring into it, upon the negroes, the Indians and the wild mountaineers of same, as well as the Spanish speaking people in the island of Cuba, from whom the shackles of Romish superstitution and tyranny have been happily and recently stricken.

This is a vast and extensive field, full of energy, activity and thrift, full of energy, eager for the proclamation of the gospel of truth and freedom; increasing in population, power and prosperity, and demanding constant, wise and faithful supervision, by devoted, capable and pendent administrators of such a great trust.

Such we have in the Home Mission Board, at Atlanta. Self reliant, trusting in God, believing in His promises, "attempting great things for God and expecting great things from Him," they bend to the task imposed. They are keeping the light of the gospel shining in the dark places, and among his people, so that its rays may be seen from afar, and hailed from all over the world. They keep the fountain flowing, pure, fast and strong from the throne of God, that the nations may see, and drink, and live, Christ here "shall see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied." Our children too, will, when this glorious consumation is finished and rounded out, be like the vision of poets of old, whom Goethe so beautifully describes, Sufficiently provided for within, they will have need of little from without." They will have "the gift of imparting lofty emotions and glorious images to men, in melodies and words that will charm the ear, and fix themselves inseparably on whatever they touch, and which of old enraptured the world and servid the gifted as a rich inheritance. At the Courts of Kings, at the tables of the great, under the windows of the fair, the sound of them will be heard, while the ear and the soul will be shut for all beside; and men will feel as we do when delight comes over us, and we pause with rapture, if, among the dingles we are crossing the voice of the nightengale starts out, touching and strong. "God's arm is not shortened." "He is faithful and true."

Let us then be liberal, solid and steady and like the squares of England's soldiers at the battle of Waterloo when the desperate charge of the Old Guard had failed, heed the order of our Great Captain, "up and at them," and pursue the fleeing foe. We will then, with God's help, carry our cause to victory over all the armies of the evil one, and throw down the conquored world at our Master's feet.

May God bless the Home Board.

H. A. Haralson,

Chairman.

EXHIBIT F. STATE MISSIONS.

The Board of Missions of our State Convention is charged with the work of fostering in the state the work of missions in the three departments according to our organized work—State, Home and Foreign.

This report has to do only with the first of these three mentioned. The Saviour said to His disciples: "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost has come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." "All Judea," was to these early followers of our Lord what the state of Alabama is to us. So that we have here our Lord's commission to be witnesses for him in all parts of this our own state.

For almost a quarter or a century the Baptists of the state have been making some organized effort toward carrying out this commission. So that we have not been altogether disobedient to the marching orders of our Captain. Progress in State Mission work means progress in the other two departments of our mission work—Home and Foreign Sufficient proof of the truth of this is the fact that some of the churches that now contribute most liberally to Home and Foreign Missions received donations from the funds for State Missions Among this number are to be found what are now some of the strongest and most efficient churches in the state. Some were saved to the denomination and to the Lord's cause because of the help given by the Board of Missions in their time of need.

The Board has in its employ now in the state two evangelists and eleven missionary pastors. But what has been done is small as compared to what can and ought to be done. The number of missionary pastors ought to be greatly increased and indeed must be if we are to make progress. The increase of population in the mining and factory towns furnishes a field for missionary activity that should stir the heart of every true disciple of the Lord amongst us; quicken our zeal and greatly increase our contributions. As yet these new fields have been practically untouched. They are our unpossessed possessions. Let us go up and possess them, for we are well able to overcome. We have many things to encourage, two of which deserve special mention in the opinion of your committee. One of these is the payment of the debt on the Board, amounting to about $2,700. The liquidation of this debt has taken away one of the greatest hindrances to our progress. The

other thing that should greatly encourage us is the return of our Bro. W. B. Crumpton to the state as Corresponding Secretary. He is a man of God and one greatly honored and loved by us. He knows the Baptists of the state as no other man does and has recognized ability as a leader. We believe that altho he has waded the deep waters of affliction in coming, his coming is of God. Shall we not rally around him as our leader and follow him as he follows our great Captain in developing a missionary zeal and enthusiasm such as has never been displayed in Alabama.

Respectfully submitted,

J. I. KENDRICK,
For Committee.

EXHIBIT G. TEMPERANCE.

This Association of Baptist Churches but keeps the commandments of Jesus when advocating temperance.

The evils which intemperance has brought upon us are so tremendous and threaten such ruin to the morals and the liberties of our country that good men tremble everywhere.

The voice of the Christian is raised to call for the help of every man and for the help of the Lord

The manufacture, sale and use of ardent spirits is licensed by law, which gives to it the semblance of respectability and makes it the harder to disillusion its votaries.

In places within our bounds the drink habit is common; but is drunkenness fraught with any the less ruin to body and soul because we see it at the court house, in the road, along the street, at the place of election and in our homes.

Its victims fill our asylums of penury, madness and crime; its wretched effects are in evidence in every community, and every good man ought to consider the means remedy.

Our churches ought to severely discipline every one that lends encouragement to it in any form.

Will all help? Ye who have lived long in preservation from its harm? Ye young men whom God especially admonishes to be sober-minded? Ye who makes and expound our laws? Ye who are sent to preach the gospel to the poor, proclaim liberty to the captive, and an open prison to them that are bound? Ye whom we love as mothers, as wives, and as sisters, and whose influence is mightier than all?

Urge temperance upon your children, press it upon your neighbors, pray for the aid of God and we shall prevail.

ALFRED EDWARDS.

EXHIBIT H. SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

This branch of our religious training is one of the most important in our field of work, and we would endeavor to impress upon the members of the Association and congregations the great necessity of a closer study and better development of this department of our religious work.

From reports filed with the Secretary of the County Sunday School Convention held a few weeks ago, we learn that there is great room for work in this line through out our associational district. Some localities are entirely destitute of a Sunday School, while others manifest very little interest.

The proper maintaining of Sunday Schools is of the most vital importance to the future of our churches, for it is from them that the church must draw largely her membership and support.

We would recommend that each and every church have a Sunday School, and insist that the elder members and parents not only see that the children under their care and protection attend the Sunday School, but that they attend with them.

The most of our Sunday Schools are made up of the children of young and tender age, with a small sprinkling of young men and ladies, and we would impress the elder members with the great responsibility that rests upon them in bringing up these children. God never put them into your hands that their lives might be wasted, but He intrusted you with a precious soul to care for, and train for His coming kingdom, and you cannot do this and remain indifferent and negligent to the moral training, while in tender childhood.

We note the vast improvement in our denominational Sunday School literature and periodicals, and would recommend that all our schools use the literature from our Sunday School Board, also that proper records be kept of the attendance and contributions so as to invoke an interest in attendance and giving to the Lord, and be able to tell what your Sunday School is doing. We have an Orphan's Home which is filled with children from all sections of the state and we think it appropriate that the Sunday School be interested to contribute regularly to the support of these children, and would suggest that the Sunday School set apart one Sunday in each quarter for a collection for the Orphan's Home, and that the contributions of that day be sent to the Orphans' Home as an offering from the children.

W. P. Welch, Chairman.

EXHIBIT I. WOMAN'S WORK.

This report will be brief. At the last meeting of the Association two ladies from each church in the Association were requested to organize a regular Woman's Missionary Society in their respective churches and arrange for a woman's meeting in connection with the Association at this assembly. Many letters were exchanged and some meetings held to prepare a programme. The success of this new feature may be seen by referring to the report of the woman's meeting. Your committee would recommend that the Secretary of the Association get a full report of the woman's meeting and have the same printed in the minutes of the Association

J. F. SAVELL,
Chairman of Committee.

EXHIBIT J. TREASURER'S REPORT.

M. H. Traylor, Treasurer,
In account with Selma Baptist Association.

DR.

Aug. 16, 1899.
Amount received from Finance Committee.....$61.27

CR.

Aug. 16, 1899.
By voucher No. 1, W. C. Bledsoe, missions....$20.91
By voucher No. 2, J. W. Stewart, Orphan's Home.. . ..... 7.80
By voucher No. 3, C. C. Jones, Min. Education 5.06
By voucher No. 4, Lewis Johnson, minutes. ... 27.50

$61.27

Respectfully submitted,
M. H. TRAYLOR,
Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,
D. B. EDWARDS,
Chairman Finance Committee.

EXHIBIT K. STATE OF RELIGION.

We find on the roll 18 churches, 13 are represented, 5 are not, 6 churches report meetings held with 38 baptized,

6 report prayer meetings. While there has been an increase in the contributions, yet in no case has the apportionment been met. All of the churches report Sunday Schools. But there is a problem in connection. The churches report 1020 members. The Sunday Schools report enrolled 630 pupils. Average attendance 396. Out of this number enrolled at least 350 are children and out of 396 average attendance, at least 225 are children—non members We ask where are the 850 on the Lord's day? Men and women who ought to be at work for the Master.

Everything in connection with the letters breathe an air of indifference. It is apparent that a feeling of lethagy and ease is permeating the lives of our people, and they are not enjoying as much religion as is their privilege. These things ought not to be.

J. B Powell,
For Committee.

EXHIBIT M. FINANCE REPORT.

REPORT OF APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE.

CHURCHES.	Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Orphans' Home	Institute Board.	Total.
Selma, 1st church	$ 600 00	$ 50 00	$120 00	$ 50 00	$ 820 00
Ash Creek	5 00	5 00	5 05		15 00
Benton	20 00	5 00	10 00	5 00	40 00
Bethany	30 00	10 00	10 00	5 00	55 00
Center Ridge	30 00	10 00	10 00	5 00	55 00
Mt. Gilead	60 00	20 00	20 00		100 00
Hopewell	25 00	10 00	10 00		45 00
Orrville	150 00	25 00	25 00	10 00	210 00
Pleasant Hill	60 00	20 00	20 00	5 00	105 00
Providence	75 00	25 00	25 00	5 00	130 00
Selma, 2nd church	50 00	20 00	10 00	5 00	85 00
Sister Springs	10 00	5 00	5 00		20 00
Shiloh	50 00	10 00	15 00		75 00
Town Creek	100 00	15 00	50 00	5 00	170 00
Macedonia	5 00	5 00	5 00		15 00
New Bethel	5 00	5 00	5 00		15 00
Ruhama	5 00	5 00	5 00		15 00
Immanuel	40 00	10 00	15 00	5 00	70 00
	$1320 00	$255 00	$365 00	$100 00	$2040 00

W. P. Welch,
For Committee.

EXHIBIT N. MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Power is what we want. Power to turn back the great tide of evil and sin and bring a wave of blessing over our land, in which Jesus Christ shall be the central feature. The great foundation stone. How to do this, and bring the masses into subjection and lay them at the feet of Jesus, has been and is the perplexing question of all ages. The tendency of things today. The signs of our times shows conclusively that the solution lies in an educated ministry. A country's ministry are truly her representative men, and no people ever rise above the level of their pastors. Jesus Christ himself gave to us the idea of an educated ministry, gathering the men about him who constituted the twelve. He gave thought upon thought, precept upon precept, parable upon parable until they were fully prepared for the work in every detail. Then sending out the seventy he gives all the instructions necessary for a hasty pioneering mission, telling them what to do in places where a want of time on His part would not suffice to supply. He knew they would meet with persecution and opposition and would prepare them. The world today is not in harmony with the gospel of God. Indeed—it is in opposition, obstacles are to be met—great evils are to be resisted and overcome. And the churches must do it under the leadership of skillful and efficient pastors.

The men who are to stand in the front, in the thickest of the fight for God, must be fully equipped, they must be armed and panopled so as they can "rightly divide the word of truth and give to each his portion in due season." The present state of society, the age, the world demand in no uncertain tone an educated ministry. The men are ready, they are anxious. The places are prepared, but alas the means are not forthcoming Howard college, now free from debt, offers increased facilities for the education of those who in a few years must hold the old gospel ship steady and anchor it safely. Let us thank God for the institution—stand by her and place our young men within her walls. Then we have the Seminary at Louisville, whose work needs no recommendation. All over our state we can see the fruitage in the efficient work of the men made ready by "her," in the power of a well rounded education to bear to all men the glad tidings of eternal salvation.

Let us labor for these institutions. They are ours. Let us, with the means God has placed in our hands, so richly, endow them, that the brethren in charge shall

have no care, no thought, save the better preparation of the men to preach the unsearchable riches. There is no better place for such a crusade to begin than in this body today. Let us begin to give, and give more, until a mighty stream shall run through the Association, into which every church as a tributary, shall pour her contributions until the work assumes its proper proportions and thereby the world blessed

We recommend a hearty co-operation with the Ministerial Board at East Lake. Through them let the churches divide contributions between Howard College and the Seminary in proportion to the need.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Powell,
Chairman.

EXHIBIT O. GENERAL EDUCATION.

Your Committee on General Education would report:

1. That the relieving of the Howard College and Judson from debts together with renewed interest awakened in them by the recent successful campaigns put these institutions in better shape than ever before. We have reason to believe that no colleges in Alabama do better work than these and they should be liberally patronized by the people.

2. The outlook for private and donominational schools without large endowment is not at this time propitious. The present policy of state schools, receiving a subsidy from the public treasury, thereby enabling them to cut rates below cost will it persisted in push unendowed denominational colleges to the wall. We therefore recomment that the Alabama State Baptist Convention be petitioned to look into the matter and take proper steps to remove this danger.

A. J. Dickinson,
For Committee.

EXHIBIT P.

Resolved, That before the 1st day of May, 1900, the Secretary shall estimate the cost of the trip to the Southern Baptist Convention, and call on the churches for amounts proportionate to their ability to realize a sufficient amount to detray the expenses of our representatives to said body.

Minutes of the W. M. U. of the Selma Association.

Tuesday August 15th, 1899.

The W. M. U. of the Selma Baptist Association met in its first regular session at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at 10:30 a. m., with a very good attendance. The devotional exercises being led by Mrs. Law Lamar of the First Church, Selma. Mrs. S. E. Cothran in a very pleasing manner delighted the audience with an impressive and beautiful solo. "Nearer My God to Thee."

Then followed the order of organization. Mrs. J. E. McMullen being elected to the President chair and Miss Frank Turner to the Secretary table.

Mrs. J. F. Savell of the Second church, Selma, welcomed our visiting members and delegates in a most charming manner, while Miss Sadee Rudulph of Pleasant Hill, ever in the alert, responded. Then followed the order of business.

Mrs R. W. Barnes read a very interesting paper. "Some reasons why woman's meeting is held apart from the main Association. The enrollment of delegates and visitors then followed. Fifteen delegates and a number of visitors being present. They were as follows:

Selma, First Church—
Mrs. Law Lamar, L. A. S.
Mrs. Peter Burke, M. M. W.
Miss Laura Hayward, H. H. S.
Miss Bryd Suttle, Y. L. S.

2nd Church, Selma—
Mrs. C. P. McMullen, W. M. U.
Mrs. R. W. Barnes, W. M. U.
Mrs. S. E. Orey, W. M. U.

Collerine—
Miss Alma McGaugh, W. M. U.
Mrs. J. B. Powell, W. M. U., Soapstone.
Miss Zadee Ellis, W. M. U. Orrville.
Miss Lucy Crumpton, W. M. U. Pleasant Hill.
Miss Mary Edwards, W. M. U. Shiloh.

Reports were read as follows:

First Church, Selma.
W. M. U. expended $117.05.
L. A. Society expended $201 45.
Y. L. Circle expended $32.66.
Children's Board expended $36.00.

Second Church, Selma.

W. M. U. expended.
Town Creek Church.
W. M. U. exponded $38.00.
Orrville Church.
W. M. U. expended $195.00.
Shiloh Church.
W. M. U. expended $23.00.

Mrs. L. F. Stratton, President of the Central Committee, Birmingham, was introduced to the Union, she gave a good report from the Central Committee.

Open discussion followed, after which no further business, the Union adjourned, to meet Wednesday morning at 9:45 a. m.

Mrs. J. E. McMullen,
President.

Frank. T. Turner,
Secretary.

August 16th, 1899.

The second session of the W. M. U. of the Selma Baptist Association met in regular session at 9:45 a. m., in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Devotional exercises being led by Mrs. L. F. Stratton, of Birmingham. Mrs. H. A. Haralson read the report of the W. M. U., to the Southern Baptist Convention and to the W. M. U. Socities and it was adopted.

The audience now being refreshed by a solo by Mrs. W. L. Ward, Miss Zadee Ellis, of Orrville, read the report the "Advantages of Organized Work." it was adopted.

Mrs. C. P. McMullen made a motion to draw up resolutions and extend a vote of thanks to the Presbyterians for the use of their church and to Mrs. Ward and Cothran and Mr. Harry Marshall for affording such lovely music during the Association. The motion was adopted and the following resolutions were made:

Resolved, We the members of the W. M. U. of the Selma Association, desire to express our sincere thanks to the members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for the use of their building during the meeting of the Association.

Resolved, We would express our gratitude to Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Cothran and Mr. Marshall for their delightful music, which added much to the enjoyment of the meeting.

In expressing thanks the committee beg leave to include The Morning Times and Daily Journal for notices published. Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Law Lamar,
Mrs. R. W. Barnes,
Miss Zadee Ellis,
Committee.

Mrs. R. W. Barnes made a motion, it being adopted, to leave the matter of selecting committee on programme to the President.

The following committee was appointed: Mrs. J. F. Watson, Mrs. R. S. Sutten, Mrs. H. L. Dudley, Mrs. Wm. Day, Mrs R. P. Oldham, Mrs. Peter Burke.

Miss Ellis read the report from the Ladies Missionary Society, Orrville, it being adopted.

The report on "Various interest fostered by the W. M. U.," was read, being discussed by Mrs. J. A. Mauldin with a paper on Foreign Missions, Mrs. R. P. Oldham, a paper on State Missions and Mrs. J. C. Kendrick a paper on Home Missions. Under these forms of interest, discussion was opened by Mrs. L. F. Stratton, followed by Mrs. R. P. Oldham, Mrs. Haralson and Mrs Lamar.

Another paper on Fronteer Boxes, read by Mrs. J. E. McMullen, the report was adopted. A motion made by Mrs Burke, it being carried, to record in the minutes.

The pledges made for the orphanage and for Frontier Boxes to be taken by the different societies. Also to extend a vote of thanks to Mrs. Stratton for being with us during our first session.

No further business, the hymn "Blest Be The Tie That Binds," was sung and the first session of the W. M. U. of the Selma Association was closed, the prayer of dismission being led by Mrs. Stratton.

Mrs. McMullen,
President.

Frank Turner,
Secretary.

THE STATE BOARD.

The State Board of Missions heretofore so heavily encumbered, is at last free from debt, for which we should be grateful. When the 77th session of the State Convention met at Opelika great things had been accomplished towards freeing the Board from debt during the ten months

previous, but still there remained an indebtedness.

The Corresponding Secretary in his report said, "while we have not succeeded in entirely freeing the Board from debt, that which remains is within the sphere of easy liquidation." "If we had been given a full year instead of ten months, I have no doubt it would all have been paid." "This better condition of our finances," he continues, "has not been attained by easy ways. Many sacrifices have been made. Many noble brethren and sisters all over the state have given devoted services to the Board work. We are due them a large share of gratitude. Rev. A. J. Preston was instructed to devote most of his time to destitute places in his field. He most cheerfully complied with the request of the Board. His reports are most gratifying to us in every way While he has not been able to collect but a little over half of his salary, it was not expected as his labors were confined almost exclusively to desolate places, where people were unable to give, or had not been trained to giving. Reports submitted by our missionary pastors are most encouraging. The salaries of these brethren are supplemented by greater or less amounts, enabling them to live until their churches are self sustaining. Later reports from the committee show the Baptist denomination of Alabama to be entirely free from debt. Congratulations should be extended to the entire brotherhood of the state, for their heroic efforts in this great undertaking.

We recognize that the burden has been great, but the generous and royal support has cheered us to the end. Now that we no longer feel the heavy weight of debt hanging over us, what shall we do? Shall we content ourselves to be idle or shall we not rush forward with greater zeal and courage to fight for the Master's cause. We often say, "ring out the old, ring in the new," when the year's close is at hand. How shall we step over the line of the new century? With songs, prayers and gifts or empty handed? Let us resemble the wise men of old, and with worship in our hearts and gifts in our hands, let us go and worship our Lord.

When John Wesley laid the corner stone of the City Road Chapel of London, he preached from the text "What hath God wrought." If he were here today no doubt he would preach with greater meaning and deeper emphasis from the same text.

Then what hath God wrought for us—for the Baptist denomination of Alabama. We have shared God's bless-

ings abundantly, for which we are grateful. Is there obstructions in the way? And does our faith hesitate? So it was with the trembling woman who went to the sepulchre, but when they came, behold the stone was already rolled away. Let no word of doubt be uttered, for doubt is infectious, but let each do his best and help the Board to accomplish greater things in the future than in the past.

Lets attempt great things for God and expect great things of Him.

Mrs. P. R. Oldham,
2nd Baptist Church. Green Street, Selma, Ala.

HOME MISSIONS.

The work of Missions is all embracing. It extends not only to the greatest preachers and most efficient laborers, but even the humblest servant in the Master's kingdom has his share in this great work. Our Savior's great commission, "Go ye into all the world," was given to every one of us, and each of us will be held responsible for the carrying out of this, our Savior's last command. If, then, we are commanded to "Go," to whom must we go and carry this great message of glad tidings? We need not look far to find this out; for this same commission tells us "Into all the world." In still another place our Savior, in speaking to His followers says, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." What further gospel do we need to warrant us in pressing forward in the great work which we have undertaken! No one can sneak out or hide from the responsibility, nor can he say that this place or that is not included in our Savior's command.

For convenience our work has been divided into three parts or classes—Foreign Missions, Home Missions and State Missions. Of the first we have already heard and of the last we are soon to hear. Let us now for a few minutes turn our thoughts to the consideration of Home Missions.

First of all what do we mean by Home Missions. Speaking generally, it is missions in our own home-land. "But why should we need missionaries in this enlightened land," some one may say, "I tho't missionaries were sent to the heathens." Ah, yes, my sister! they are; and did you know that there are heathens at our very doors? We need not even go to the frontiers or the mountain region to find these, but we see plenty of need for mission work

among the negroes all around us and also among the great number of foreigners in our large cities. In just these places and among just these people our Home Mission Board is endeavoring to send laborers.

The regions that are now thickly populated were once the frontier regions, and what if our forefathers had not seen to it that gospel truth was implanted in the hearts of the settlers and their descendants? We should even now be in the midst of heathenism and without the great blessings which religious freedom brings to us. The frontiers of today will one day be teeming with life, for civilization is pressing westward, and upon us rests the responsibility of seeing that these regions are taken for the Lord. Not only today but future generations will tell how thorough and earnest has been our work in this line. Our frontiers are now Western Texas, Western Arkansas, Indian Territory and Oklahoma. And in these fields almost one half of all the missionaries of our Home Board are at work. No greater hardships of missionary life are to be found than in the lives of these frontier missionaries. Their poverty and meagre salaries often result in the barest supply of even the necessaries of life. In addition to this, they are frequently located so far away from the cities, that it is impossible to secure these at any cost. The boxes sent out by our ladies' societies in some measure relieve this, as they generally contain many little articles scarce thought of by the missionary and his wife and yet which seems absolute necessities to us at home. God grant that this work may go on and that we may see to it that no missionary fails to receive a box this year. And just now is the time to begin to work at this so that the box may reach the missionary before the rigors of winter are upon him.

There are a number of states in the south where our denomination is too few in members and too weak in finances to make scarcely more than a beginning in the mission work that is actually demanded of them. These states are helped by the Home Mission Board. Among them are Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana and Texas. Of course the states are urged to raise all they can for their own destitution and the Board simply supplements these amounts.

Another division of the work of our Home Mission Board is generally known as that of the mountain region. This work is done in the mountains of Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and West

Virginia. The inhabitants of these districts have been for so long cut off from the rest of the world that it was found impossible to do any permanent work without first educating them to a certain extent. For this purpose high schools have been organized among them and through this means great good is being done.

Last, but by no means least, among the fields of our Home Mission labor comes Cuba. At a glance it may seem strange that this should be under the supervision of the Home Board, rather than the Foreign Board. This is due to the fact that this work was first begun in Key West, one of the Florida keys, by our Home Board. From here it gradually extended into the island of Cuba and thus the work in this island came under the fostering care of the Home Board. Since Cuba's freedom has been obtained our opportunities and responsibilities there have increased at an enormous rate. We, as Baptists, have greater opportunities there than any other denomination. Disgusted as they are with Catholicism which brought upon them all their woes, the priest-ridden people naturally seek the other extreme in religion; and what can offer this so truly as the faith we as Baptists hold and proclaim. Are we seizing this opportunity and filling up the time with such labor as is needed and the island with such workers as are needed there.

We have thus barely mentioned the different lines of work included under the term Home Missions and fostered by our Home Mission Board; the frontier, mountain region, work in weak states, among the negroes, in Cuba, and among the foreign population which is constantly being poured in upon our shores by the great number of immigrants who come here each year. And here lies a great danger and a large field for labor. These immigrants bring with them some form of religion, the Catholic perhaps, and unless they are met in the proper way and the proper means used to convert them, we cannot long hope to hold our land for Christ and be able to enjoy religious freedom.

Upon the success of Home Missions in a large measure depends the success of Foreign Missions. In point of time, Foreign Missions precede Home Missions, but our father saw that without the evangelization of our own country we could never hope for any lasting results in foreign lands. The strength of the denomination at home must be increased if more missionaries and larger supplies were to be sent to the foreign countries. Accordingly the work of Home Missions was begun and to the great success of this work is

largely due the success on foreign fields. The work of Home Missions is, therefore, not one which is narrow in its aim or contracted in its results. On the other hand, it affects the evangelization of humanity. If America be won for Christ it will greatly aid in solving the complicated problem of the world's evangelization. Roman Catholicism is doing its utmost to seize and control America. Let us so rally to the support of our Home Board as to render all her efforts impossible of success. Let us see to it that each of us do our duty in this line during the coming year and we cannot but look for great results.

MRS. J. I. KENDRICK,
Furman, Ala.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

"Go ye therefore and teach all nations." Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you; and lo! I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Here Christ is talking to the woman and His disciples, and he tells them, "I am with you always, even to the end of the world." What more can He promise them; this should give us courage to go on with His work. I feel that Christ is speaking to each one of us. He calls us by name. We all have our duty put aside. How are we to know? Why ask Him in faith to show us plainly, then just as soon as we feel prompted to do a thing or say a word for Him then is the time. Nothing is more certain than the fact that we can so deaden ourselves to the voice of conscience that we fail even to hear its pleading in moments of deepest sin. On the other hand, by attending to its warning we are made aware of the very slightest whisper of our inward monitor.

Our societies are the means of sending the gospel to the heathen, and I do think that every christian woman should belong to them. I feel sure every church represented here has one, and am sorry to say a great many women in the church are not members in this good work. What does our Lord say? "Ask of me and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession." Now my sisters, don't you all feel that Christ wants you in this work! Just think of the many, many souls dying without a Savior—no hope, it is sad to think of.

We say we can not go teach them, yet we are willing to help them. But what can I do? we ask. God has given each of us a talent, He expects us to use it. Ask Him to help and guide you. Come and unite with this band of women in your society, help them, pray for the poor lost souls, contribute to the cause, do it all for the Saviour. Miss Kelley and others are doing a great work, but they need our prayers and help. We are to be judged some day for our work here on earth. How happy we will be when we meet our Saviour face to face and He tells us of some soul saved through our prayers. We can deny ourselves more for them and send the message to them. How thankful we all should be that America was not chosen for the heathen land. God could have made it such, but see how merciful and good He was to us. I have talked to a great many, tried to show them where it was their duty to be a member of the missionary society; some excuse was they could not get off to attend the meetings. It should be a pleasure for us to meet once a month and offer prayer for the poor lost heathen and for the ones that are out there trying to lead them to the Saviour.

We have our comfortable homes, everything we need, then think of the men and women that have gone to the different fields, the hardships they have to bear, yet they say "it is all right as long as I can bring a soul to Christ." They ask us for our help and prayers. O don't let us get cold and indifferent. Pray for these poor souls, deny ourselves more, do it all cheerfully and for the Saviour, who is doing for us all the time, not as though we had it to do, let it all be through love. We need more of Christ's spirit. What does He say to us? "Ye are the salt of the earth." But salt is good for nothing while it is barreled up in store houses or in church pews; it is to be scattered and put upon the places of need that putrefaction might not take place. A little boy said in his composition that salt was stuff that made your dinner taste bad when you don't put it on. We smile at that, but our church life is a sentiment that makes the community taste bad when we don't put it on. O, if we only worked for our Master as hard as Satan's flock works for him—the good we all may do. Now let each one of us resolve to do more for our Saviour. Pray more for the poor heathen, deny ourselves more to send them the gospel. Did you ever think of it? God is using women to a large extent for the work of bringing the heathen into His kingdom. There are 40 missionaries in China, 25 of them

are women. Now my sisters, let us try to make this year the best of all for the advancement of the Master's kingdom. To do this let us earnestly pray to God in faith and all of us do the very best we can. May God hasten the coming of the day when all the nations of the earth shall love and serve Him.

Mrs. J. A. Mauldin.

MISSIONARY BOXES.

The so called missionary boxes are a part of the work of the ladies in our churches, which is intended to aid in the work of missions on the frontier of our own country and may be called an important feature of that work.

Since the first settling of the pilgrim fathers, our country has had a frontier, and the history of the frontier life has been and is today an entrancing story to each successive generation. To those concerned about higher things the most thrilling part of this frontier history is that played by the frontier missionary and preacher. We hold in great honor today those devout men of the past who gave us what we have. And we must honor and help those earnest Godly men who have left the comforts of home and of civilization to brave the many dangers of the wild frontier to labor for the Master, and to make the future history of our country. On them must depend in large measure the moral and religious conditions of the country.

The missionary boxes, containing as they do, only such things as are useful to the family must be a considerable item to the hard worked, and too frequently, badly paid preacher and family. And we must not forget that these boxes are contributed in a large measure by those who could ill afford to give the value of the articles contributed in cash. That they are appreciated we can not doubt if we will take the trouble to read the many letters of thanks received and published in the different journals of our denomination.

In the sending of the boxes the Womans Missionary Union, are accomplishing a good work, and the results are far reaching in many ways. A sister writing from the Indian Territory tells of an interesting event at a frontier Association. Being asked to tell the Convention how the work of the W. M. Union, was carried on, she explained that "we are auxiliary to the convention, carrying out the

recommendations of the boards, etc." And at the close she asked that those who had been enabled to come to the Convention, only through the help they had received from our sisters in the east to stand up About twenty men and every one that had their wives testified that they could not have come without the help. All were dressed in clothing sent in boxes from the east Surely our Heavenly Father will bless such efforts, and make them an honor and glory to the dear women and His cause. If in our Frontier Assotion there were twenty families who were enabled to attend the Convention, how can we place a proper estimate on the amount of good accomplished all over the frontier of civilization in this broad land of ours.

As the country is settled and civilization advances the field is made broader and more important, and the amount of good must depend upon the manner in which we improve our opportunities.

What more earnest appeal need be made to the true disciple of Christ for an increase in the number of boxes sent than to point them to the evidences of grateful hearts given in the letters of thanks received.

To feel that one has given substantial aid to one of God's chosen laborers and helped him on his way to the winning of souls for the Master is an incentive to the Christian not to be neglected, and is a sweet reward to the donor.

Believing that the blessing of a Heavenly Father is with us in our efforts to aid in His cause, we should try to do more in the future than in the past, and not forget the sending of our missionary box in its season.

MRS. J. E. MCMULLEN.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Churches.	State Mission.		Home Missions		Foreign Missions.		Ministerial Education.		Indebtedness	Orphan's Home.		Minutes.	Home Expenses.		Woman and Young People Society and Sunday School.					Value of Property.	Collected for divers Purposes.	Judson Institute.	Greensboro Church	Colportage, Bible.	
															Missions.										
	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	State	Cash.	Voucher.		Pastor's Salary.	Repair, the Poor Etc.	Cash.	Vouchers.	For all Purposes.	Home Expenses.	Orphan's House.						
Ash Creek																									
Benton																									
Bethany	$ 1 50		$ 1 50		$ 1 50							$ 1 00	$ 125 00												
Center Ridge	8 11	$ 1 00	8 11	$ 31	8 12			$ 75	$ 11 00		$ 5 00	1 25	135 00	$ 2 00						$ 2500	$ 33 00				$ 1
Hopewell																					5 00				1
Macedonia												50													
Mt. Gilead	2 19	7 80						12 51			10 00	2 00	150 00				$4 28		$11 54	1500					19
New Bethel																									
Orrville		45 00				$ 34 72			1000 00		52 22	1 50	450 00	300 00							90 78	$100			2,0
Pleasant Hill		44 71		5 00	3 50	8 00		8 56			22 32	1 50	193 00	18 80							42 55				3
Providence		13 00		13 21		16 50		109 60	250 00		12 65	3 00	350 00	20 00			13 00								7
Ruhama																									
Selma, 1st church		327 10		17 05		132 80		48 00	340 00		36 02	5 00	2000 00	3349 15							120 74				43
Selma, 2nd church		1 50						7 00				3 00	350 00	348 91		$62 80									7
Shiloh		8 33		6 91		7 04		6 13			4 38	1 30	200 00	6 25			23 99				23 35		$1 00		2
Sister Springs		3 13		3 99	62			64			1 90	50													
Town Creek												1 50					57 60				52 85				1
Immanuel												1 00													
Total	$11 80	$451 57	$ 9 61	$ 46 50	$13 74	$199 06		$ 93 19	$1601 00		$ 144 49	$23 05	$3953 00	$4041 11		$62 30	98 87		$11 54	$ 4000	$368 27	$100		$1 00	$ 9,1

Cash collected for Institute Work ..... $
Cash collected for Orphans' Home 1

$9.1

D. B. EDWARDS, Chairman Finance Committee.

42.80
98 37
11.54

STATISTICS OF SELMA ASSOCIATION, 1899.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POST OFFICE.	Last Reported. Membership	INCREASE By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Voucher.	By Restoration.	DECR'SE. By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Erasure.	By Death.	Present Membership	SUNDAY SCHOOL. Officers & Teach'rs	Pupils.	SUPT. NAME AND POST OFFICE.	Preaching Sabbath.
Ash Creek	Lowndes	W. H. Simmons	I. N. Lyons	Gordonsville	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	5	25	I. N. Lyon, Gordonville	.....
Benton	Lowndes				...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	.....	.....
Bethany	Lowndes	W. H. Simmons	I. L. Lyons	Gordonsville	42	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	45	7	40	A. E. Edwards, Collerine	1st
Center Ridge	Dallas	H. T Crumpton	H. J. Yates	Carlowville	33	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	5	25	C, M. Hunter, Carlowville	3rd
Hopewell	Lowndes				...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	.....	.....
Immanuel	Dallas	J. E. Barnes	W. H. Brazier	Browns	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	4	26	W. H. Kendried, Massilon	4th
Mt Gilead	Lowndes	W. H Simmons	M. H Traylor	Benton	39	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	39	6	23	W. E. Mealing, Benton	3rd
Macedonia	Lowndes				...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	.....	.....
New Bethel	Lowndes				...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	.....	.....
Pleasant Hill	Dallas	J. I. Kendrick	F. C. Riggs	Pleasant Hill	71	8	1	..	.	2	1	..	2	75	12	58	J. W. Baily, Pleasant Hill	4th
Providence	Dallas	J. F. Watson	T. W. Berry	Tasso	75	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	73	5	....	Lewis Johnson, Orrville	2nd & 4
Ruhama	Lowndes				...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	.....	.....
Shiloh	Dallas	J. B. Powell	E. H. Lide	Sardis	65	3	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	69	5	35	E. H. Lide, Sardis	1st & 3
Sister Springs	Dallas	E. F, Baber	J. S. Hooper	Tyler	36	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	22	4	11	W. D. S. Morgan, Soapstone	1st
Selma, 1st church	Dallas	A. J. Dickinson	Edward Graham	Selma	275	23	9	..	..	13	..	5	3	286	23	169	W. P. Welch, Selma	every
Selma, 2nd church	Dallas	J. F. Savell	J. S. Mauldin	Selma	213	13	22	..	..	11	..	4	8	225	12	90	J. A. Mauldin, Selma	every
Town Creek	Dallas	J. B. Powell	E. L. Stewart		58	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	2	51	8	50	R. D. Stewart, Polk	2nd & 4
Orrville	Dallas	J. F. Watson	T. J. Daniels	Orrville	49	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	51	6	44	J. E. Dunaway, Orrville	1 & 3rd